



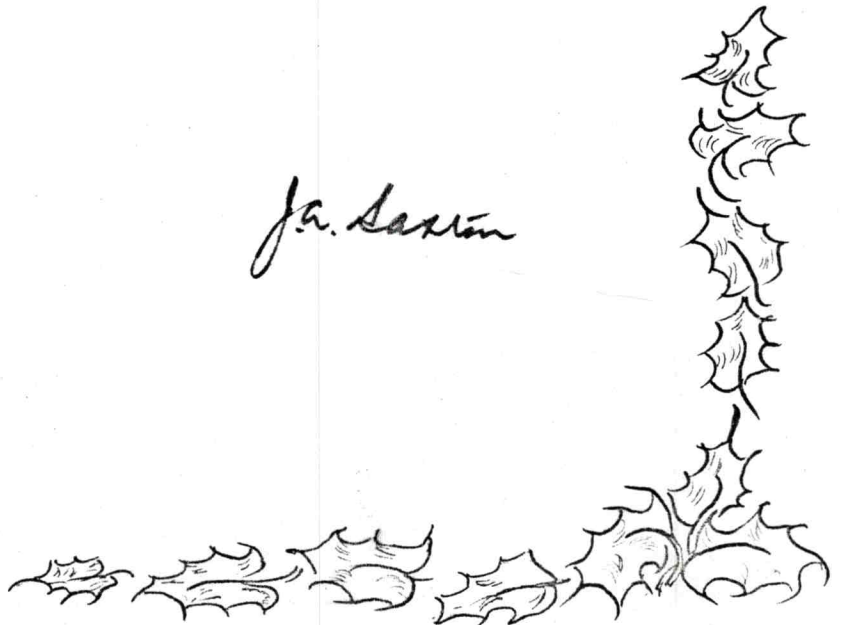
# APPLETON LABORATORY NEWSLETTER

No. 151

December 1973

We have passed through a momentous year, marked in November by the visit of the Secretary of State for Education and Science, for the re-naming of the Laboratory, which symbolizes our increasing interdisciplinary role and developing responsibilities in the Science Research Council. No member of the staff will need reminding of the very difficult times through which we are living, and our difficulties, along with those more generally of the whole Nation, will be with us for some time yet. Some despondency, though natural, will not really help us and we must all look forward to better things. In this spirit, I most sincerely hope that all members of the Staff and their families will have a Happy Christmas, and find that 1974 will eventually see more prosperous circumstances than those with which 1973 ends.

*Ja. Saxton*



STAFF NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

J.D. Ewart	now	HSO (Act.)
Mrs. H.K. Wood	"	Audio Typist P/T
R.A. Wakefield	"	Cfn. I

WELCOME TO:

R.J. Ely	S.O.
J.R. MacDougall	S.O.
J.C. Cole	A.S.O.
Miss P.R. Hills	A.S.O.

RESIGNATIONS

E. Hammond	H.S.O.
W.R. Piggott	S.P.S.O.
J.K. Wilkie	S.O.
L. Bevan	P.T.O. IV
P. Allies	Cfn. I.

OTHER CHANGES ETC.

R.J. Powell	H.S.O. ret. to duty at Slough after duty in U.S.A.
R.B. Young	A.S.O. made Deputy Shift Leader
D.J. Stanley	A.S.O. made Shift Leader
S.M. Clayson	Ex.O. Transferred from Winkfield to L.O.

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

RSRS FOOTBALL CLUB

We are keeping this name until the end of the present season. Suggestions for a new name are welcome.

Having lost our first 4 league matches and got eliminated in the preliminary rounds of 2 cup competitions, the Chairman and Manager swiftly hit on the right solution and signed on three new players. The Club has since collected 7 points from only 5 matches and also got through to the 2nd round of the League Shield.

The arrival of Nobby Clarke's two sons, Steve and Bob and Wendy's (nee Harrington) brother Richard has fortified the team to such extent that our reputation as a "strong" team kept the opposition away last week! This could mean yet another 2 points.

At the moment we are roughly in the middle of the league table. I am ignoring the earlier results but listing the last few weeks to spread Christmas cheer.

28.10.73	vs	Dynamos at home	(3 - 1)
4.11.73	vs	Little Marlow Reserves at home	(3 - 3)
11.11.73	vs	Windsor Garage at home	(5 - 1)
18.11.73	vs	Shalibane away	(3 - 2)
25.11.73	vs	Sun Celtic Reserves at home	(2 - 1) (League Shield)
2.12.73	vs	White Lion away	(1 - 3)
9.12.73	vs	AFC Braywick Reserves at home	(Cancelled)

U. Yilmaz

TABLE TENNIS

The 'A' team has played only one game since the last Newsletter, against Cippenham 'A' which was lost 3 - 7 in spite of Alan Buck winning all his three singles. The 'B' team lost a league game against Calor Gas 'B' 2 - 8 but survived rounds 1 and 2 of the Dilger Knock-out Cup. Centre Hunters, old rivals from Div.1 were beaten in Round 1 and Andfoil were convincingly beaten in Round 2, one of John Delury's hapless opponents losing a game 21 - 1. As with so many other activities Appleton's participation in local competitive table-tennis could be in jeopardy if private transport becomes restricted.

CAR CLUB

The cold weather brings out the worst in car batteries. Since the abolition of RPM 'discounts' are somewhat nebulous. Does one buy a 'cheap' battery or an expensive one. One hears many comments such as "I bought this cheap battery with a 1 year guarantee and it went 'phut' after 13 months"; "everybody knows Lucas batteries are no good". "My Lucas battery has lasted over 4 years. "Blue Star batteries are cheap and nasty". "I always buy Blue Star batteries and get very good life". You must please yourself.

One hint about starting has been known to work. If the starter turns the engine but it won't fire, disconnect the wire to SW on the coil and convert a 12v dry battery across the coil and use the starter. You must immediately replace the SW lead to the coil and then disconnect the dry battery when the engine fires.

One car manufacturer suggests that a tired battery can be revived, and a good one improved by discharging it completely at about 5 amps by means of bulbs or resistors recharging at the same rate. The battery should be fully charged to start with and the S.G. of the electrolyte checked, before discharging.

P. Muzlish (Hon.Sec.)

16.12.73 vs Eton Town Reserves (7 - 2)

THE CHRISTMAS DANCE

The Chairman of the Sports and Social Club would like to thank all those whose valuable help made the Dance such a success on Saturday 15th December. It is hoped to publish a full report and acknowledgement in due course.

Ed.

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OBITUARY

SIR ROBERT WATSON-WATT C.B.,F.R.S.

We much regret to report the death of Sir Robert Watson-Watt on Wednesday 5th December, at the age of 81.

The development of radar and its associated system, in which he played an all-important part, had its origins in work undertaken by our laboratory when it was the Radio Research Station and he was its first Superintendent.

Present circumstances limit an obituary to this brief notice; however, we hope to include a full appreciation of his work in a later edition

LOST

An overcoat was found to be missing after the dance on 15th December. The pockets contained car and house keys. Will anyone having information please get in touch with Mrs. D. Baldwin.

THE NEWSLETTER

In order to reduce as much as possible the demands on the typing and duplicating services during the present emergency, the contents of the Newsletter will be limited. It may be necessary for articles to be held over or appear in shortened form and, for the present, there will be no illustrations.

Yours sincerely

The Editor

HIGH LATITUDE ROCKET CAMPAIGN

The High Latitude Campaign at Andoya, Norway was completed on 6 December with the successful launch of the last two Petrel rockets, and all those involved have now returned to U.K. The launches in this, the biggest campaign ever mounted by SRC, and managed by the Laboratories, were completed within the scheduled slots, thanks to the determined efforts of all concerned, particularly the launch teams from AWRE (14 Petrels) and BAC (5 Skylarks).

During the ten week period of actual launch activities a vast number of valuable data were obtained which will keep the eight groups of experimenters busy for a long time to come. Other achievements within the campaign were the successful use of a number of new techniques developed at the Appleton Laboratory. Amongst these were a rocket-borne p.c.m. telemetry system, a slant range telemetry tracking system and a lidar system used to track chemical clouds released from five of the rockets. Another notable achievement was the launch of Skylark and Petrel rockets in quick succession on three occasions. On one, a Skylark and a Petrel payload were airborne simultaneously and on another, one Skylark and five Petrels were launched into the same auroral event within the space of just over two and a half hours.

D. E. Mortimer

LIST OF REPRINTS - DECEMBER 1973

J. R. Norbury and  
W. J. K. White

"Point rainfall rate measurements at Slough, U.K."  
Conference on Propagation of Radio Waves at Frequencies  
above 10 GHz. 10-13 April 1973, I.E.E. 190-196.

INTERNAL MEMORANDA

NIL